



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

+

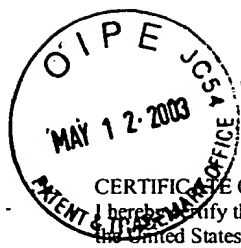
| | | | |
|---|----------------|------------------------|-------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application | 09/865,021 | |
| | Filing Date | May 23, 2001 | |
| | First Named | David A. Ferrera | |
| | Group Art Unit | 2874 | |
| | Examiner Name | Juliana K. Kang | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | Attorney Docket Number | MICRU 57642 |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer | <div>Return Postcard TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800 MAY 14 2003 RECEIVED</div> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application | Remarks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Firm or Individual name | FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP |
| Signature | |
| Date | May 5, 2003 |

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING | | | |
|--|--------------------|------|-------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: May 5, 2003 | | | |
| Typed or printed name | David G. Parkhurst | | |
| Signature | | Date | May 5, 2003 |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



PATENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with
the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First
Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee
Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 5, 2003

James W. Paul, Reg. No. 29,967

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

DAVID A. FERRERA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/865,021

Filed: May 23, 2001

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS OPTICAL
FIBER SHAFT

Examiner: Juliana K. Kang

Group Art Unit: 2874

Client ID/Matter No. MICRU 57642

May 5, 2003

Los Angeles, California 90045

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is in reply to the Office Action dated February 7, 2003, setting a
shortened statutory period for a response of three months.

Please enter the following amendments:

RECEIVED
MAY 14 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800